

BRITISH SECURE VALUABLE POINT

Capture 1000 Germans and Take Neuve Chappelle Weakening Hold on La Bassee.

RUSSIAN ATTEMPT IS FAILURE

Berlin Reports Favorable Fighting Near Przasnysz; English Admiralty Silent.

LONDON, March 11.—The official military observer at the British headquarters in the field says in a report given out here today that there is no truth in statements that the German ranks in the west have been depleted generally and to a marked extent and that their morale has weakened.

LONDON, March 11.—British forces in France advanced three-quarters of a mile yesterday, capturing all the intervening positions of the enemy, according to an official announcement given out in London today.

PARIS, March 11.—A bombardment of the fortifications in the Dardanelles, principally by the French warships, was continued Wednesday, according to a Tennesse dispatch to the Matin. A heavy fog prevented aviation from learning the effects of the heavy fire from the fleet, but the fire from the Turkish batteries slackened perceptibly.

STATE SCORES IN THAW CASE

All Testimony Regarding Sanity of Defendant Is Ruled Out by Judge Page.

NEW YORK, March 11.—Harry K. Thaw's attempt to get evidence concerning his sanity into the record of his trial for conspiracy to escape from Matteawan failed today.

Justice Page ruled out all testimony of this character, except just enough to show that Thaw had the mental capacity to enter into a conspiracy with his five co-defendants to escape. He held that injection of testimony designed to prove Thaw's sanity was improper in this case, which was purely to try an indictment charging the existence of an illegal conspiracy to effect the escape.

The state brought its case to a close and the defense immediately made the usual motions to dismiss the indictment on the ground that the state had failed to prove its contentions. The motions were all denied except one in behalf of Michael O'Keefe, made on the ground that there was no evidence adduced to connect him with the alleged crime. Justice Page discharged O'Keefe.

The sanity question came up during the testimony of Bernard Kelsey, the New Hampshire deputy who brought about Thaw's arrest in Canada. He was asked if he thought Thaw was sane, but the prosecution's objection was sustained.

In arguing for the admission, John B. Stanchfield said it was Thaw's idea that if he should not get away from the asylum he might by association become insane.

"As an act of self-preservation, it was necessary for him to escape, as he had exhausted all legal means to effect his release," said Mr. Stanchfield. "There was no criminal intent for, as I said, the escape is no crime."

Justice Page asserted that the release should have been effected according to law.

GERMAN FINANCES BETTER THAN ENGLISH AND FRENCH

BERLIN, via London, March 11.—The Berlin papers today give considerable space to the speech with which the secretary of the imperial treasury, Dr. Karl Helfferich, yesterday submitted the budget in the reichstag. It is evident his presentation of the financial situation is attracting favorable attention.

"Germany's credit has stood the test of war better than has that of Great Britain or France," Dr. Helfferich declared. "Germany alone has avoided a general moratorium. French reuts have fallen 12 to 15 and English consols about 7 points, while German three per cents have fallen only 5 1/2 points."

REPRESENTATIVE TO CONDUCT BOXING TO WIN SUPPORT

CHICAGO, March 11.—Professional boxing matches will be staged in Springfield, it was announced today in an attempt to win support state senators and representatives in support of a boxing bill.

The contents will be conducted under the direction of Representative Edward M. Santry, who, years ago, was a leading featherweight boxer.

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NEW YORK, March 11.—A total of 9,546,348 books were given out by the New York public library last year for home use, according to a report to the trustees. This is an increase of 1,196,388 volumes over the previous year. Increasing interest in the American history and in arts, music, economics and science was reported.

FRENCH PLAN FAILURE

Campaign in Champagne Closes With Victory for Germans, Says Major Morabit, Military Expert.

BERLIN, via London, March 11.—Major Morabit, military expert of the Tagesspiegel, referring to the French campaign in Champagne, which he says closed with a complete French defeat, declares Yvoniers was unquestionably the point which the French sought to take.

"This city," he said, "commands to a great degree the northern entrance to the Argonne and this district would have been evacuated by the Germans if the French had taken it, or else the German front there would have been forced into an angle toward the west where it would have been exposed to attacks both from the west and south."

"Another result would have been the weakening of pressure on Verdun which the Germans then would have been able to menace only from the east and southeast. To the material aspects of the victory must be added the physical and moral effects on the enemy and their heavy losses."

ITALIAN GUNS CAUSE PANIC IN CONSTANTINOPLE; REPORT

GENEVA, via Paris, March 11.—The guns reported fired by the Italian fleet in the Dardanelles stopped all business in Constantinople and was the signal for a panic according to the Swiss travelers who have arrived here from the Turkish capital. They declare many wealthy families are leaving for abroad.

Constantinople is said to be full of officers, including Germans. Comparatively few troops most of them military are going to the front. There are persistent reports in the capital that a large army soon will arrive from Adriatic.

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KILL AND LOOT IN MEXICO CITY

Spanish Ambassador Reports Assassination of Four of His Countrymen.

PRIVATE RESIDENCE BURNED

State Department Is Told of Conditions but Is Not Requested to Act.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Senator Klamo, the Spanish ambassador, informed the state department today that four Spaniards had been assassinated in Mexico City and presented reports of looting and burning of private residences in the outskirts. He made no specific request for action.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—General Carranza's reply to the United States was laid before President Wilson before it was indicated in administration circles that the situation looked encouraging. An attempt will be made by the United States to secure an unbroken line of railroad between Vera Cruz and Mexico City by order to transport the destitute.

Secretary Bryan said he was working at Mexico City and Vera Cruz for speedy admission of supplies to the Mexican capital. Assurances were received from General Carranza that foreigners would be allowed to use the railroad as soon as the evacuation was completed. It is understood he was encouraging them to withdraw and go to a place of safety.

RED CROSS TO ESTABLISH BUREAU AT ZURICH

Geneva, March 11.—The International Red Cross committee will open a special intelligence bureau at Zurich for the exchange of correspondence between French and German ecclesiastics, provided the project is approved by the Red Cross organization in the countries concerned.

REGISTRATIONS DECLARED VOID

Former Terre Haute Chief of Police Testifies Mayor Instructed Him to Make Out 2,500 Illegal Slips.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 11.—Mayor Roberts told me to make out about 2,500 registration applications for the last election," testified Edward Haller, former chief of police of Terre Haute, at the trial today of Mayor Roberts and 27 others charged with election fraud conspiracy. Haller, who has pleaded guilty to the charge, has been named by a number of witnesses as the leader in the city hall registration scheme.

A MINISTER RESIGNS

Portuguese Representative at Paris Refuses to Serve Under Dictatorship; Trouble Is Explained.

PARIS, March 11.—Jaon Chagas, Portuguese minister to France, has resigned.

"The present cabinet is an extraordinary one, and I will not serve under a dictatorship," said Senator Chagas in reply to inquiries as to the reason for his resignation. "I cannot forget I was the first constitutional premier Portugal had. The present regime may not last long, but I thought it my duty to resign my diplomatic post."

"Nothing can explain the creation of the present dictatorship. Portugal has been quiet and life there normal, of course there are party struggles, but material order was not threatened when the executive power was placed in the hands of Pimenta Castro."

"The abandonment of constitutional rule can benefit only the adversaries of the republic. They are exaggerating daily incidents and even inventing sensational stories such as the one sent out from Balajosa about the Democrats of the north electing a second president in opposition to President Arriga who is universally respected."

Jaon Chagas was premier and minister of the interior in the cabinet formed in September, 1911, and which resigned in November of that year.

EXPORTS FROM NEW YORK PORT BREAK RECORDS

NEW YORK, March 11.—Exports from this port yesterday exceeded in value \$10,000,000, the largest amount ever recorded in a single day in the history of the custom house.

READY NOW FOR WATSON'S TRIAL

Senate Will Argue in Secret and Vote on Sections in Open Sessions.

COTTON BILL IS DISCUSSED

Good Roads Bill is Under Consideration and is a Most Important One.

Final action was taken today by the house on the impeachment bill. The measure was adopted without a dissenting vote. The bill has passed the senate.

War at a Glance

An important battle of which only the barest details are given in the official communications of today, was fought in Flanders yesterday as a result of the British attack on the German positions along an extended front. The French war office announced that about one and one-half miles of German trenches were captured by the British. The German statement says merely that the British made advances at some points. A report from the official observer at a British headquarters in the field characterizes the German army as "intensely brave, determined and well organized" and says there is no reason to believe that the German troops should be discouraged. It will be impossible for the allies to defeat the Germans decisively, the observer believes, except by "ever increasing pressure of vast numbers of men and guns throughout the coming months."

No extended reference is made in the official report from Berlin to the new German advance toward Przasnysz in Northern Poland which Petrograd says has led to a great battle that still is to be decided. The report says, however, that the German forces made progress north and northwest of Przasnysz.

The British plan for attempting, in cooperation with France, to stop trade to and from Germany, has been decided upon and embodied in an order in council. King George signed the order which will be gazetted soon.

Field Marshal von Hindenburg has made another of the swift and unexpected strokes which have marked his campaign against the Russians. Gathering a large force along the Prussian border in northern Poland he has begun a new movement southward apparently intending to strike again at Przasnysz, where the Germans recently met the defeat which preceded their general retirement in the north. An important battle has developed as a result of this movement, the result of which, it is said in Petrograd, has not yet been indicated.

With the diminution of activity in Champagne, the western battle front has grown quieter. The German military authorities assert that the allies have suffered a complete defeat in Champagne after undertaking an offensive movement, believed in Berlin to have been designed to relieve pressure on the Russians.

Desultory fighting continues in Belgium, but along the eastern end of the line where there have been active and almost continuous battles weather conditions have forced a temporary halt.

Paris reports tell of the resumption of the Dardanelles bombardment yesterday. It is said that the fire of some of the Turkish batteries under attack slackened perceptibly during the engagement.

Dispatches from both Newport News and Washington indicate that the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich which took refuge yesterday in Hampton Roads will be interned.

BULLET PIERCED FLAG FLIES OVER TRAINING STATION

CHICAGO, March 11.—A bullet pierced the flag flown by the United States ship Chester at the occupation port of Vera Cruz waved today from the top of a 400 foot steel tower, the third highest in the world, at the Great Lakes naval training station at Lake Huron, Illinois.

The tower completed yesterday is one of two for the high powered federal radio station which soon will establish wireless communication between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Work of erecting the second tower will be rushed to completion.

Commander William A. Moffet was in command of the Chester at the time it covered the landing of marines at Vera Cruz. He now is in command of the training station.

GERMAN AMBASSADOR TALKS WITH ITALIAN PREMIER

ROME, via Paris, March 11.—Prince Von Buelow, the German ambassador, called at the home office yesterday and conferred for an hour with Premier Salandra. No announcement was made regarding the subject of the conference.

BELGIAN CHILDREN MUST ATTEND SCHOOL IN FUTURE

AMSTERDAM, via London, March 11.—Compulsory school attendance by all Belgian children will be enforced from today by order of the governor-general of Belgium, according to a telegram received here from Brussels by way of Berlin.

WOLK ON STREET NOW

Carpenter Tells Police He was Held Up on Street Last Night and Recovered of His Cash.

A carpenter, going home from a meeting of his union last night, was held up and robbed of \$5 in the 200 block on East Fifth street at about 10:45 o'clock. Immediately after the robbery he went to a police station and reported the matter. The police car arrived one and one-half minutes later.

According to the carpenter's statement, the man had stepped out of the saw mill, and demanded his money. He alleged that in an attempt to get the gun from the robber he had been beset and his pockets rifled. A careful search made for the man by the police proved fruitless.

The robbery is said to have occurred at about the time a meeting of citizens held at the court house last night adjourned. This meeting was held to discuss plans for the prevention of crime. The police do not know the carpenter's name.

CAR REPAIRERS GET MORE MONEY BUT LESS TIME

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Inquiry by the department of labor into the wages and hours of labor of employees engaged in the building and repairing of steam railroad cars in the United States shows that while their full time weekly earnings were 5.5 per cent higher in 1914 than in 1912, full time weekly working hours were 0.7 per cent lower.

The department's figures are based on data obtained from 73 representative establishments and cover more than 42,000 employees. Fifty-six hours per week was the average time put in by those engaged in the industry.

EITEL'S CAPTAIN IS INSTRUCTED

Collector of Customs Gives German Conditions Regarding Cruiser's Stay in American Waters.

NEWPORT NEWS, March 11.—The letter setting forth the conditions regarding the stay of the German cruiser in this port was presented to the commander of the Prinz Eitel Friedrich today by Collector of Customs Hamilton. It read:

"NEWPORT NEWS, Va., March 11.—The commander, 'The German cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich.' 'Sir: 'I have the honor to advise that under instructions received from the secretary of the treasury formulated with the advice of the state department your stay in United States waters will be governed as follows: 'You will be expected to leave United States jurisdiction within twenty-four hours, in accordance with article 12, convention 13, The Hague 1907, unless a further period of time is proved to be necessary to take on board fuel or stores, or to make repairs.

CRUISERS CHASE EITEL TO PORT

British Warships Standing Near Wait for German Raider to Appear Out of Neutral Waters.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., March 11.—The story of the sinking of the American sailing ship William P. Frye, by the German commerce destroyer Prinz Eitel Friedrich, undoubtedly the most serious incident of the war in its concern to the United States, was being slowly unraveled here today.

Chased to the haven of an American port by British cruisers, the Prinz Eitel anchored and her commander received from the port authorities the usual notice to leave within 24 hours. That, however, was a mere formality required by law, for after seven months of sea roving, during which she has net eleven prizes to the bottom, the German auxiliary needs repairs which will take weeks to complete.

The neutrality board at Washington, it was understood here, had recommended that the repairs be allowed under the supervision of an American naval officer. Whether the commander of the Prinz Eitel will choose to make them and then risk a dash through the British cruisers gathering off the Virginia capes is a development for the future.

OFFICIALS BUSY

The Prinz Eitel's band played German national airs today in celebration of Commander Thierichsen's birthday, her 300 prisoners of several nationalities were gathered at the rails and her German crew was cleaning ship while the American port officials made hurried visits from the customs house to the liner for conferences with Commander Thierichsen and his officers and held telephone communications with Washington about the neutrality questions involved, the diplomatic aspects of the sinking of the Frye and the disposition of the prisoners on the Eitel.

The captains of eight of the vessel's prizes were permitted to go ashore and they complained that they were not permitted to take their crews with them. Commander Thierichsen would not consent to their departure and would not give up the ship's papers of the prizes he had taken. He contended that they should go to the prize courts in Germany. Officials pointed out, however, that if the Eitel decided to intern the prizes of the release of her prisoners would solve itself and only the German crew of the Eitel would be interned by the United States.

WILSON PROBING LOSS OF VESSEL

Upon Result of Inquiry Will Depend Action of State Department Says President.

STORY OF SHIP'S DESTRUCTION Act of Prinz Eitel Friedrich Is Considered Most Serious Affair.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., March 11.—The loss of the American ship William P. Frye, sunk by the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, was released today and brought ashore. Twenty-two articles valued at \$20,000 of the German national flag, contained behind and responded to members of the fatherland by enthusiasts.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 11.—President Wilson announced today that a searching inquiry will be made into the sinking of the American sailing ship William P. Frye of the American auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich.

A most searching inquiry will be made and whatever action is taken will be based upon the result of that inquiry.

Discussion of the affair in official quarters was taken to foreshadow a strong protest to Germany against the sinking of the American vessel.

The contention of the German commander that because the American ship had contraband of war aboard her, destruction was justified, was set up as a plea in other cases, but nevertheless has not been recognized by the United States.

The fact that the Prinz Eitel Friedrich was commanded by a German naval officer under commission from the German government and the fact that on lives were lost when the Frye was sunk transferred the case from the realm of criminal proceedings, under the federal statutes on a possible charge of piracy and makes it a subject of diplomatic negotiations with the object of gaining reparation for the owners and a disclaimer of unfriendliness.

That the United States would ask for damages and an expiation from the German government was regarded as certain. Some officials thought the German government would find itself compelled to reparation of the action of the German captain or abandonment of the position taken by Germany in recent correspondence with the United States on the subject of conditional contraband and foodstuffs. Presidents in international law reveal that the circumstances under which neutral governments have acquiesced in the destruction of their vessels in time of war are very few.

The general rule applied is that a belligerent warship must take its prizes into port unless there are compelling reasons, such as unseaworthiness, lack of a prize crew, danger of capture and the presence on board of a cargo of contraband, which would make certain its condemnation by a prize court. The commander of the belligerent vessel must preserve the neutral ship's papers and bring them to a prize court for the entering of a decree.

In the Russo-Japanese war the United States protested to Russia against the sinking of the British steamer Knight Commander with an American cargo. The crew testified that the vessel had been sunk for want of coal to proceed to Vladivostok, and the United States considered that the sinking of the vessel was not justified by the bare facts that there was contraband of war aboard.

U. S. Case Is Strong. The fact that what is conditional contraband, that a ship would be liable to condemnation only if it were proved that its cargo was destined to the belligerent forces of an enemy and that an opportunity was afforded for the furnishing of evidence make officials believe that the case of the United States against Germany is a strong one.

During the Russo-Japanese war Great Britain maintained a long and vigorous correspondence with Russia on the right of a captor of a neutral ship to sink it if it were difficult or impossible to take into port. Great Britain declared such measures "would occasion a complete paralysis of all neutral trade" and characterized them as contrary to acknowledged principles of international law and "intolerable in all neutrals."

John Bassett Moore, former counselor of the state department, in reviewing these discussions, said the correspondence "served to emphasize the potentially important relation of the question of contraband to the question of destruction."

"When publicists have spoken of the presence of contraband, he wrote, 'as justifying or causing the destruction of a neutral ship that could not be brought in, they have no doubt had in mind cargoes composed of things specially adapted to use in war and confessedly contraband, such as arms and ammunition and cannot be assumed to have contemplated the submission of neutral commerce to general depredation under an extension of the categories of contraband.'"

It was believed this would be the position assumed by the United States.

RATE INCREASES ON PACKING HOUSE PRODUCTS SUSPENDED

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 11.—Proposed increased rates on livestock, dressed beef and packing house products in cartloads from Chicago to the Mississippi river crossings and other points in the middle west to eastern seaboard and interior points including Buffalo, Erie and Pittsburgh were suspended today by the interstate commerce commission pending investigation of their reasonableness.

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TO GET MORE RACERS

Carhart Will Go to California to Enlist the Interest of Automobile Men New Racing in That State.

E. R. Carhart, president of the Southwest Auto racing association, the backers of the two day automobile speed races to be held here April 20 and 22 will leave for Venice, Cal. Saturday, where he will make an effort to sign up the leading auto racers of the world to appear at the free for all race here on April 22. Carhart will attend the races to be held at Venice, March 13, at which the racers entered at the Panama-Pacific fair, will be pitted against each other.

It is believed by association men that a personal interview with the racers will prove a material help in getting them to sign for the race here, and it is believed that the work cut out for Carhart while on his trip to Venice will mean a good gain to the list of notables who have already requested a place in the open meet.

An announcement of the association is that in addition to the Oklahoma city race, to be held the first day of the meet, a 150 mile motorcycle race which will be open to all. The purse in this contest will be \$500. This will be an addition to the nine-mile automobile race open to Oklahoma machines only, and will be a side issue from the 200 mile race on the last day. This feature was added upon the request of the Oklahoma Motorcycle club, which guaranteed to secure at least twenty entries for the event.